The Hickman Courier

Vol. 155 • No. 10 | Thursday, March 6, 2014 | 75¢



Photo by Barbara Atwill

TREACHEROUS ROAD CONDITIONS - Monday morning's commute was hampered by ice, snow and sleet that covered the roadways all day and night on Sunday, March 2. A bread truck (on left) was pulled out of the ditch on Hwy. 94 between Cayce and Hickman by Allen's Wrecker Service on Monday, March 3 around 11 a.m. Roadways were still hazardous to travel on Tuesday, March 4.

Sheriff's News

Two perish in Levee crash

On Wednesday, Feb. 26, at approximately 5:30 p.m. the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) was notified about a motor vehicle accident approximately 20 miles west of Hickman on the Levee Road. Once on the scene officers found a 2001 Dodge pickup overturned on the river side of the levee. The vehicle had just crossed the TN/KY state line and was heading east towards Hickman.

"A preliminary investigation shows that speed was a contributing factor in the accident," states the release. "The vehicle left the gravel roadway and started traveling down the levee embankment. It appeared the driver tried to over correct causing the vehicle to skew, eventually causing it to flip multiple times finally coming to a rest upside down."

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Ricky R.

See **CRASH,** page 5

Traffic stop yields two arrests

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, at approximately 11 a.m., officers with the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) conducted a traffic stop on Moscow Avenue in the city limits of Hickman on a 2000 Lincoln Expedition. The vehicle was occupied by two individuals, the driver was John Edgin of Hickman, Ky. and the passenger was David Anthony Dixon of Wickliffe, Ky. Dixon was known to be in the Hickman area and had outstanding warrants from other counties for drug charges. A FCSO K-9 unit was brought to the scene at which time the dog did indicate on the vehicle. Found in the vehicle was crystal meth, scales, baggies, and meth pipes. Dixon was arrested at the scene and transported to the Fulton County Detention Center



Dixon



Edgin

See **DRUGS,** page 5

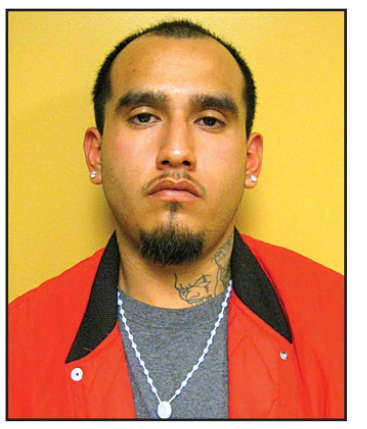
Abandoned Arkansas vehicle results in multiple charges

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, at approximately 8 a.m. the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) was notified about an abandoned vehicle on Roper School Road. Once the deputy arrived it was determined that the vehicle, a 2009 Dodge Journey with Arkansas registration, had been stolen from Paragould, Ark. sometime between February 21 and February 23. The vehicle was recovered and transported back to the FCSO where the investigation continued.

Officers went to the Indian Hills Apartment complex in Hickman where several individuals were interviewed. Two male subjects were detained and brought to the FCSO for interviews at which time they confessed to having possession of the vehicle and charges were filed.

Erick Garza, a Hispanic male,

See **ARKANSAS,** page 5



Erick Garza



Anthony Kyle Wilson

Trio seek office of Judge/ Executive

Charlotte Smith
Editor

Three men have qualified to seek the office of Fulton County Judge/Executive in the Democratic primary on May 20.

Jim Martin, 67, resides in Fulton. He has 41 years professional experience in economic development and public administration as director of West Kentucky office of the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development and TVA Economic Development field consultant. He has also been Fulton's city manager and mayor and was Fulton County's first county-wide economic developer. Martin is a certified general appraiser and a licensed real estate broker, currently providing these services to Fulton County from his Fulton office.

Martin cites his expansive personal and professional experiences in the county and region as important qualifications. "I have first-hand knowledge of the complex issues facing the county, including financial strains, infrastructure, and economic development. My history of obtaining grants will be an asset to Fulton County," stated

See **JUDGE,** page 6

County reps look for railway funding

Benita Fuzzell
Leader Correspondent

Area city and county officials did not have to be asked more than once, when Kentucky's Transportation Cabinet asked for input and ideas about the state's Rail Plan.

During a come and go meeting Thursday, Feb. 27 at the Pontotoc Park Community building in Fulton, County Judge/Executive David Gallagher, Hickman-Fulton County Riverport Authority (HFCRA) Director Greg Curlin, Fulton Mayor Elaine Forrester and Fulton County Transit Authority (FCTA) Executive Director Kenney Etherton had specific needs in mind as they discussed issues relating to area railways.

"We just wanted to make known our needs here, as far as the Amtrak Station in Fulton," Mayor Forrester said. "We need to make some improvements there, the lighting and other potential safety issues," she added.

Also making a stop during the afternoon was Etherton, who oversees a business which has found transportation via Amtrak to be a signature program for the local transit authority as it provides pick up and delivery service to travelers who use the Amtrak Station, located on U.S. Hwy. 51.

The station itself, according to statistics from the state the local station recorded the highest number of passengers transported, over Amtrak stations located in Ashland, Maysville and South Shore.

Travelers have the option of traveling north to Chicago, Ill. or south to New Orleans, La.

Over 11,000 Amtrak passengers were served in 2013 in Kentucky.

According to Etherton, the

See **RAILWAY,** page 5



Photo by Benita Fuzzell

STATE RAILWAY MEETING - HFCRA Director Greg Curlin (right) attended a meeting last week in Fulton looking for funding to update the state's current railway system.

HVFD to hold informational meeting

When you voluntarily choose do something freely, you are volunteering or giving of yourself in order to benefit others. For many years now the Hickman Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) has been relying on those who have given of their time and talents to make the HVFD the success that it has been. Some of those include the likes of Charles "Ed" Totty, Bill Ramsey, Hugh Caldwell, Jackie Duncan, John Cagle, Bill Murray, Tommy Ramsey and so many more.

Some of them remain with the department. A few have passed on and some have moved on to other endeavors.

See **HVFD,** page 5



YOUTH VOLUNTEER - These volunteers recently spent a week in Puerto Rico assisting the deaf community. Some were going for the first time and they include (front row) Connor Jackson and (back row) Zach Sarles, Wade Clark, Savannah Sublette, Amy Langford, Dixie Major, and C.J. Morris.

Good examples positively influence the youth

Charlotte Smith
Editor

Connor Jackson, a freshman at Fulton County High School and 14-year-old son of Carla and Joe Jackson, went recently for the first time on a mission trip to Orocovis, Puerto Rico.

Learning from positive role models and setting good examples are blessings for the young people in any community, and Connor is quickly vocal about the benefits of his 10 days spent in Puerto Rico in February.

After seeing his mom's five-year commitment to the Puerto Rico mission trips with team leaders Carrie and Darrell Powell, Connor wanted to be part of the work the team has been doing for the deaf community in Puerto Rico for 11 years.

The team of 28 volunteers traveled up and down the mountainside, an hour and 45 minutes each way, to their work destination. Some had to take anti-nausea medication because of the curves and the height of the mountains.

At the Powells' invitation, in recent years teenagers and young adults under the age of 21 have been members of the mission trips, providing a bird's eye view of what volunteering to help those in need can do to

See **EXAMPLES,** page 8



Photo by Barbara Atwill

SATURDAY LEAGUE PLAY - Action on Saturday during the Saturday League games included Hammerheads vs. Hickman Heat (shown above). Games are played each Saturday at FCHS, weather permitting. See additional photo on page 6.

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Obituaries

Sharon M. Hunter
James T. Fuller
Elizabeth H. Bey
Raymond H. Griffith

Complete obituaries, page 5



River Stage Forecasts

Ohio River at Cairo, Ill.

Wednesday, March 5 – 35.9
Thursday, March 6 – 33.3
Friday, March 7 – 31.2
Saturday, March 8 – 30.2
Sunday, March 9 – 29.6



SNOW DAY FUN - Phillip Williams maneuvers his four-wheeler through the snow pulling his daughter Karlie Williams on a sled on Monday afternoon, March 3 at his home on Moscow Avenue.

Your Local Weather

Thu 3/6	Fri 3/7	Sat 3/8	Sun 3/9	Mon 3/10
43/24	49/32	55/30	46/30	61/39
Clouds giving way to sun . Highs in the low 40s and lows in the mid 20s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the low 30s.	Occasional showers possible. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the low 30s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.

THE HICKMAN COURIER
THE VOICE OF HICKMAN AND FULTON COUNTY
Charlotte Smith - Editor
Barbara Atwill - Business manager
Established in 1859. The oldest newspaper in West Kentucky.

Turning Back The Clock

25 Years Ago
June 15, 1989

Obituary: Rev. Thomas Y. Smithmier, 71.

•

Pictured: The New Hickman Electric System building, which is located at 1104 Moscow Ave. Final work on the building is being done this week and offices at the new building will be open Tuesday, June 20.

•

Raina Edgin was honored on her ninth birthday with a party at the Moose swimming pool in Union City, Tenn.

•

Pictured: Jaron Baker, 11-month-old son of Scott D. and Lisa Baker, is getting his first haircut. Tracy Eddington of City Barber Shop is giving the haircut. Jaron has a brother, Aaron, who is four-years-old. They are the grandsons of Rev. and Mrs. James Uzzle of Hickman and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Baker of Union City.

•

Pictured: A crew of city employees was busy Friday morning cleaning up the Floyd Earl Keith Memorial Park in East Hickman as City Manager Harold Garrison and Hickman Chief of Police Dean Parnell look on. Garrison said that this is the best the Memorial Park has looked since it was built and added that the city intends to keep this park and the City Park in tip-top shape this summer so that the citizens can enjoy the areas.

•

The crew of the dredge boat "Missouri H" out of Lake Charles, La. will be finishing their work in the Hickman Harbor this Friday, according to Hickman City Manager Harold Garrison. The crew has been working here for a couple of weeks.

50 Years Ago
September 10, 1964

Mrs. Ardel Fields and Mrs. R.K. Hart of Mayfield took second place in the special pairs games in the seventh annual Irvin Cobb Duplicate Bridge Tournament over the weekend in Paducah.

•

The City of Hickman Monday night adopted unanimously an ordinance to purchase the Kentucky Utilities Company electric system in the Hickman area and also voted to give policemen a $30 raise.

•

More than 18,000 persons, many from Hickman, attended the Obion County Fair in Union City last Saturday to set an all new record for a single day's attendance for the 1964 event to a new five day record.

•

Explorer Post 48 met August 27 and the bylaws were read by the secretary, Hugh Caldwell, for the benefit of a new member, Terry Mitchum. Also present were: Clifford Patton, James Abernathy, Drag Yarbro and Joe Rumfelt, advisor.

75 Years Ago
September 15, 1939

The street lights were turned on again last Saturday night, following negotations of the city council with Kentucky Utilities Company.

•

A singing school will begin at Sassafras Ridge Church on Monday evening. Sept. 18, under the direction of H. Vaught. Good singers from towns in Western Tennessee and Kentucky are expected to visit the school and the "Happy Jubilee" quartet, directed by Mr. Vaught, will also appear from time to time.

•

James Amberg, second baseman for the Aquino Colonels, is suffering from a broken finger on his left hand, incurred Monday evening while warming up for the game. Not knowing of the fracture, James had the finger taped and played throughout the game. Now he is definitely out of activities requiring the use of his left hand until the opening of the duck season, as is stated at "headquarters."

125 Years Ago
September 22, 1889

Stephens and Tyler will give away, free, a $50 sewing machine next week when the New Home general agent of Nashville, comes to demonstrate the work of this wonderful invention.

•

The new college approaches completion and now comes consideration of the best plan for its management. Shall an additional tax be voted so as to make it a ten months free school, the trustees employing the teachers and guaranteeing their salaries, or shall it be leased for a term of years to a competent principal who shall select his own assistants and be responsible for its success? Anyway, the funds are exhausted and a nice iron fence, good pavements, shade trees and grading of the three acre lot are needed. Let's all chip in and help this good cause along.

•

T.T. Tyler, Col. Tillman and B.R. Walker made good speeches Wednesday on behalf of the Hickman and Tiptonville railroad and levee. The company is using every effort to succeed despite the unfavorable attitude of the overflowed landowners. The Courier believes these men are making the mistakes of their lives by not pushing this railroad-levee project.

Deed Transfers

The following Deed Transfers were recorded in the office of Fulton County Clerk Betty Abernathy Friday, Feb. 21 – Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014:

The city of Fulton, Ky., by and through its Mayor, Elaine Forrester, of Fulton, Ky., to Jeffrey J. Campbell, Trustee u/d/t dated 11/2/2011 F/B/O The Jeffrey J. Campbell Family Trust of South Fulton, Tenn., property in city of Fulton, value $325,000.00, Feb. 21.

Earline Thompson to Richard Thompson, property in city of Fulton, value $82,500.00, Feb. 21.

Camelia Blair Goodman (f/k/a/ Camelia Barham) of Fulton, to Grogan Properties, LLC of Arlington, Ky., property in Fulton County, value $12,500.00, Feb. 24.

Shirley Jean Sommerfield to Sherman Knox, property in city of Fulton, value $1,000.00, Feb. 25.

Douglas Bradley to Lloyd Bradley, property in Fulton County, value $7,250.00, Feb. 27.

Bart H. White and his wife Jennifer White of Hickman, Ky. to Bronzie Johnson of Hickman, property in city of Hickman, value $11,000.00, Feb. 27.



Photo by Barbara Atwill

HOW MUCH? - Hannah Varden counts her money to see how much she needs to purchase cookies from the bake sale held during the Habitat for Humanity Spaghetti Supper on Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Life Enrichment Center of First Methodist Church in Hickman.



Photo by Barbara Atwill

DELICIOUS - Larry Myatt enjoys delicious spaghetti and salad at the Habitat for Humanity Spaghetti Supper on Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Life Enrichment Center of First Methodist Church in Hickman. A bake sale and cake auction was also held.

A day well seized

Eric Lewis, Guest Columnist

I took a trip to the family farm today. It's been a while since I've ventured into the wild. Living in the city can detach the soul from the peace and quiet of nature.

I've forgotten how special it is to slow time, and notice the things that the mind never thinks about. When the chaotic noise of cars, music, and development, finally fade away…the ghostly acoustics of my childhood playground, sneak back into my mind.

Just sitting there on the four wheeler, after traveling the long meandering path through the trees…listening to the sounds. I heard a squirrel cutting a nut, high in the trees above. I was startled by a young hawk's whistles, echoing from across the field. I even sat and watched a cicada crawl up the side of a log. The downed tree was riddled with cicada skins, that looked like an army of tiny alien statues facing the sky. There was a lot to observe and enjoy.

The trail camera is ambushed on an oak tree, nestled amongst a gathering of limbs. It's eye, set to capture not only deer, but the littler critters as well. I'm sure I'll gather many photos of furry bandits, old gray does, and Bigfoot….but what I'm really after is the elusive Swamp Donkey! Hopefully I'll get a glimpse of a trophy before somebody punctures him with a red arrow.

I checked my deer stand, aka "The Tower of Death," and made sure all the mouse beds and raccoon poop was cleansed from the floor. I've got to have the blind pristine, because this year we've planned to let my wife harvest a deer. I want to have it perfect for when she arrives. I'm apprehensibly excited about taking her for the first time.

Hopefully this will be the start of a lifelong tradition. I want it to be enjoyable for her. I bet I'll have a story to write about that lampooned adventure, for sure!

As I sat looking out the windows of my bunker on stilts, a sense of calm came over me. The same feeling I use to have as a child, when the only thing that mattered at that moment was wanting more time to enjoy it. Life stands still when all you have to worry about is which way the wind is blowing, and remembering to stay still.

For the hour long drive home, I had the radio off…trying to retain the memory I had absorbed on my adventure. Sometimes the sweetest music has no rhythm and lyric.

If life has you overwhelmed, if the chaotic flood of business, rustle and bustle, and the monotony of day to day has you down, I recommend an afternoon in the woods. Just sit there. Don't talk. Don't even think. Grasp hold of time, watch, and listen. You'd be glad you did.



Fulton County Transit Authority Offers Amtrak Station Pick-Up Service

AMTRAK FARES

From The FCTA parking lot to the Amtrak station $6/person
From the Amtrak station to FCTA parking lot $6/person
From any residence in Fulton County to the Amtak station $8/person
From Amtrak station to any residence in Fulton County $8/person
From any residence in Carlisle, Hickman, or Graves County to the Amtrak station $15/person
From Amtrak to any residence in Hickman or Graves Counties $15/person
Any Amtrak pick-ups or drop-offs in secondary Counties we serve (Ballard, Calloway, Marshall & McCracken) will be $25/person
Any pick-ups at the Amtrak station taken to Tennessee $1.75 per mile

Free parking located at the FCTA office. FCTA is not responsible for lost or stolen items from vehicles left on its parking lot. We are located at 302 Eastwood Drive, Fulton, KY 42041. Call 270-472-0662 or 1-866-247-2025 for information. Office hours 6 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F

BUS TICKETS

Now you can buy your Trailways & Greyhound bus tickets to St. Louis, Memphis, Nashville, Louisville, Paducah or anywhere in the USA at Fulton County Transit Authority

GREYHOUND Miller Trailways

Buses depart & arrive at the FCTA office. Call (270) 472-0662 for more information or stop by the FCTA office!

Reader Information

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Tax is included on Kentucky subscriptions.

NO REFUNDS

Advertising Errors

Liability for advertising errors is limited to reprinting that portion of the advertisement that is in error. All advertisements are assumed to be checked on first insertion. This newspaper assumes no liability for errors after the first insertion.

The newspaper is on sale each Wednesday at these locations:

Hickman - E.W. James & Sons, Little General #53, Medcare Pharmacy, MeMaw's, Pat's Red Door Salon, River City Liquors, Roger's Tire & Lube, Senior Citizens Center, Miss Martha's, and inside Dollar General
Cayce - Cayce Cafe, Cayce Junction, and Cayce Oil & Lube
Fulton - Evans Drug, Pockets, Hunter's One Stop, Pic Pac, The Fulton Leader, and inside Walmart
Union City - Skaggs Gro.
Jordan - Jordan Store

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Hickman, KY 42050-0070

Dave Says...

by Dave Ramsey



Gambling entertainment??

Dear Dave,

How do you feel about gambling at a casino, as long as you limit your spending and don't expect to win big money?

Brian

Dear Brian,

I don't really have a moral problem with it, but I don't understand the concept. Call me crazy, but I do not get a thrill from losing money I've worked hard to earn. That's not my idea of entertainment.

When someone tells me they gamble for fun or recreation, my first thought is they're delusional enough to believe that they'll actually win—that they think they're the exception to the rule. Otherwise, there would be no thrill. You may see a news story once in a while about someone winning big money in a casino, but that rarely happens. Think, too, about how much money those people had flushed down the toilet previously while gambling. There's a really good chance they didn't really "win" anything. In most cases, they probably just recouped a small portion of their previous, substantial losses.

My advice is don't waste your time and money on that stuff. One way or another, the house always wins. That's how they're able to build those giant, billion dollar places called casinos. Did you know that some of those companies are so big and expansive that they're publicly traded entities? And guess what? The profits they make off people who are foolish enough to gamble their money away inside their fancy halls—and call that entertainment—drives their stock prices!

Think about it, Brian. Why do all the folks sitting at slot machines and card tables look like they can't afford to lose money? Most of them look like sad, broken, lonely people. Maybe they change when they sit down. Maybe they were winners in life and with money before they walked through the doors, and their slumped body language and the look of stress and hopelessness they carry is just a coincidence or the indoor lighting. But I don't think so.

—Dave

Nobody ever saves enough

Dear Dave,

What happens to the money in an ESA if the child gets a scholarship and no longer needs the money?

Jonathan

Dear Jonathan,

In an Educational Savings Account (ESA), and in a 529 Plan, you are allowed to pull out money tax free in the amount of the scholarship. But very rarely do you find someone going to college completely free and clear. Often tuition is covered, and even tuition and a dorm room in some cases, but zero-cost college is almost unheard of. There are always living expenses, books and other miscellaneous items, and you can use the money in an ESA for any education-related expenses.

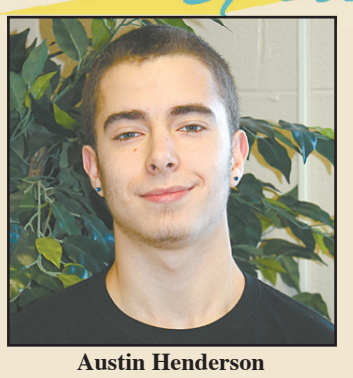
The chances of your money getting trapped and you as parents winding up in a situation where you've actually saved too much and a child has leftover money just doesn't happen. This is a bunch of drama found only in the nightmares of nerds. Real human beings don't have this problem, Jonathan, because nobody ever saves enough!

—Dave

* eRamsey and on the web at HYPERLINK "http://daveramsey.com/"daveramsey.com.

@DaveRamsey and on the web at HYPERLINK "http://www.daveramsey.com/home/?atid=davesays"daveramsey.com.••

SENIOR Spotlight



Austin Henderson

Parent's names: Beth Henderson and Andy Price

Brothers names: Thomas Price and Cameron Hutson

Sports you play (if any): Football and Track and Field

Position you play: Right Guard

Why do you enjoy playing): My favorite thing about playing football was being part of the team and playing hard.

Plans after graduation: I plan to join the United States Marine Corps or go into the welding field.

Favorite part of school: Going to the ATC every day and welding.

Something interesting about yourself: I want to go to college for a business major and then produce music.

Fondest memory while at Fulton County High School: Running down the halls for our Senior Parade.



John Stupek

Parent's names: Fawn Zombeck

Sisters names: Misty Strupek and Angelika Zombeck

Sports you play: I played baseball my Freshman year.

Position you play: Outfield and Short-stop

Why do you enjoy playing): I like the adrenaline rush after I hit the ball and get on base.

Church and/or community involvement: First United Methodist Church in Hickman. I am also a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity.

Plans after graduation: Go to WKCTC to earn a degree in carpentry.

Clubs, activities, accomplishments, and etc.: I have been in Skills USA all four years; FFA my Freshman year; and Academic team my Freshman through Junior years. I enjoyed Academic team because it is more of a challenging sport than anything.

Favorite part of school: Hear Mr. Harper's singing in class.

Something interesting about yourself: I am actually from Pittsburg.

Fondest memory while at FCHS: When Hunter Jones, Ryan Henderson, Matthew Henderson pranked someone.

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Photo by Christina Corrigan

MISSIONARY VISITORS - During the 125 years celebration of the WMU at East Hickman Baptist Church on Tuesday, Feb. 25. Guests speakers included (l to r) Donna Rice Hedgepath, Hannah Ingram, David Ingram, Jacob Ingram, Heather Ingram and Linda Rice.

East Hickman celebrates 125 years of the WMU

Christina Corrigan
Courier Correspondent

East Hickman Baptist Church (EHBC) celebrated 125 years of missions through the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) by inviting Dr. Donna Rice Hedgepath and missionary husband and wife team of David and Heather Ingram. The celebration began with fellowship by sharing a meal on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at EHBC in Hickman.

Dr. Hedgepath, the daughter of Linda Rice and the late Fred Rice, is the Dean of Education at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Ky. She led the congregation in singing with special music honoring WMU's 125 years of existence.

Linda Rice introduced Doris Harrison and Jeannie Cole who led the congregation with special music, including the song, "We've got a story to our nation." Rice also discussed the fiftieth and seventy-fifth anniversary celebrations of the WMU when she was a little girl. She remembered her mom used to bring her and her sister to these events and how she thought is was so interesting back then. Karen Langford also talked about a recent mission trip to Puerto Rico to assist missionaries with the deaf camp and other organizations.

The Ingrams, who started New Day Christian Ministry, were the guest speakers during Tuesday night's celebration. The twosome had a hand in creating 48 churches in six countries in Africa and two churches in Pakistan, as a part of their missionary work. Their missionary travels also included spending time in Kenya, Kampala, and Uganda.

"When I was 13 I surrendered to God's call in my life to be a minister of the Gospel," said David. "In fact it was also about the same time that I preached my first sermon." Then at the age of 15 David started a Bible study in his parents' home that grew quickly and had to be moved into an empty apartment with plenty of room.

"I got married before I met Heather and moved to a Bible College where I continued God's calling in my life's ministry," mentioned David. "I could not be more proud of the college I graduated from now and encourage anyone who feels the Lord calling them in to the ministry to attend there." During this time David was finishing school for the year he was asked to travel with a group to preach at a revival in Lima, Ohio in the spring of 1999. It was during this trip that David's upcoming divorce almost stopped him from preaching at that time. He stayed in Lima any way, worshipping with anyone who would listen, even on a local radio station. After some trials and tribulations he finished his degree and continued his ministry.

When Heather was 12 years old, she began volunteering at an inner city homeless shelter and at 14 volunteered to help her church with their booth they had set up at a fair to share the gospel. "When I was 17 I continued on volunteering once a week until I met David," said Heather.

Eventually David and Heather discussed their future together and made sure they were of one mind for God's plans for both their lives. David and Heather were married August 30, 2003. The Ingrams now have two children, Hannah, 6, and Jacob, 1. They presently live in Coto Laurel, Puerto Rico where New Day Christian Ministry was founded by the Ingrams in 2005.

"I was taught service at a young age and it's one my aspirations as a parent to teach my children to minister and serve others," explained Heather. "My daughter Hannah loves to be a helper." Heather went on to talk about cultivating servant-hood in the young people her and her family came into contact with.

Towards the end of the WMU 125th celebration Heather did sign language to music on a song called "Thank you," for which no words were used, only her fingers and hands.

Of all the members who attended the celebration at EHBC it was clearly visible that they were collectively very excited about the celebration being held at their church. People from 11 counties in both Kentucky and Tennessee traveled to Hickman to attended the event.

At the end of the celebration, everyone prayed and worshiped, taking up a collection for the Fall Fest and Vacation Bible School (VBS), also providing donations for The Ingram family to continue their ministry.



FELLOWSHIP TIME - On Tuesday, Feb. 25 at the East Hickman Baptist Church was the 125 years celebration of the WMU. They enjoyed soup, chili and sandwiches. Pictured above were (l to r) Joyce Miller, Kelly Lambert, Laurie Baird, Holly Fletcher and Breanna Grey.

A Note Of Thanks

Thank you so very much to Tommy Ramsey, Alan Coffey, Chuck Bloodworth, Ricky Newcomb, Charles Mudd and Kenny Mathis for stopping and helping to free my car from the snow on Monday afternoon.

Also thanks to Blacks Pecan for allowing us to park in your lot, as ours is still heavily covered in snow.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Smith and Barbara Atwill

New Residents to Hickman



Stop by The Courier office for a free complimentary copy of the paper.

Enter drawing for a free 6-month subscription

The Hickman Courier
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Hickman, KY 42050
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www.hickmancourier.com



Jason Eugene Fikter and Kodie Lanae McClanahan

April wedding for Miss McClanahan, Fikter

The engagement and forthcoming marriage of Kodie Lanae McClanahan of Fulton, Ky., and Jason Eugene Fikter of Mayfield, Ky., was recently announced.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Don and Krystal McClanahan of Fulton. Her grandparents are Phyllis and Frederick Pierson of Union City, Tenn., Brenda Pate of Fulton, and the late Dorothy and Fred McClanahan of Fulton.

She is a 2002 graduate of South Fulton High School and a 2004 graduate of Draughon's Junior College. She attended Mid-Continent University of Mayfield. She is employed with Aloha Pools and Spa of Paducah.

The groom-elect is the son of Connie Fikter and the late Timothy Fikter of Willow Springs, Mo. His grandparents are Loris Whittington and the late Robert Whittington of Willow Springs, Beatrice and Maurice Highsmith and the late Eugene Fikter of Willow Springs.

He is a 1994 graduate of Willow Springs High School and a 2004 graduate of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo., with a Master's Degree in Physical Therapy. He is employed with Reliant Rehabilitation of Paducah.

The couple will wed April 5, 2014 at South Fulton Baptist Church at 3 p.m. with music to start at 2:30 p.m.

A reception will be held in the Family Life Center immediately following the ceremony.

All friends and relatives are invited to attend. Only out of town invitations will be sent.

Happy Birthday

The Hickman Courier wishes all these good folks a very happy birthday! Help make their days more special by remembering them with a card or a phone call.

March 10 – Nancy Morgan and Andrea Craddock.

March 11 – Van Ellingburg, Kyle Weatherly, Robert Mays, and Jarrod Duty.

March 12 – Teresa Hayden, Peggy Hollis, Marshall McMullin, Brent Johnson, Ralph Wayne Adams, Kendall Rice, Jr., Lena M. Keith, Austin Garrigus, Tashia Conley, and April Wilson.

March 13 – Jim Brown, Kathy Hulin, Jenna Nettles, and Sandra Taylor.

March 14 – Karen Blincoe, Mike Wilkerson, Stevie Emery, Russellyn Isbell, Ben Adams, and Paul Westpheling Butts.

March 15 – Danny Cook, Debbie W. Craddock, Toby Kennedy, Thomas Mitchell, Laura Ferrell, Rodney Stewart, Jeffrey Stewart, and Jimmy Dale Walker.

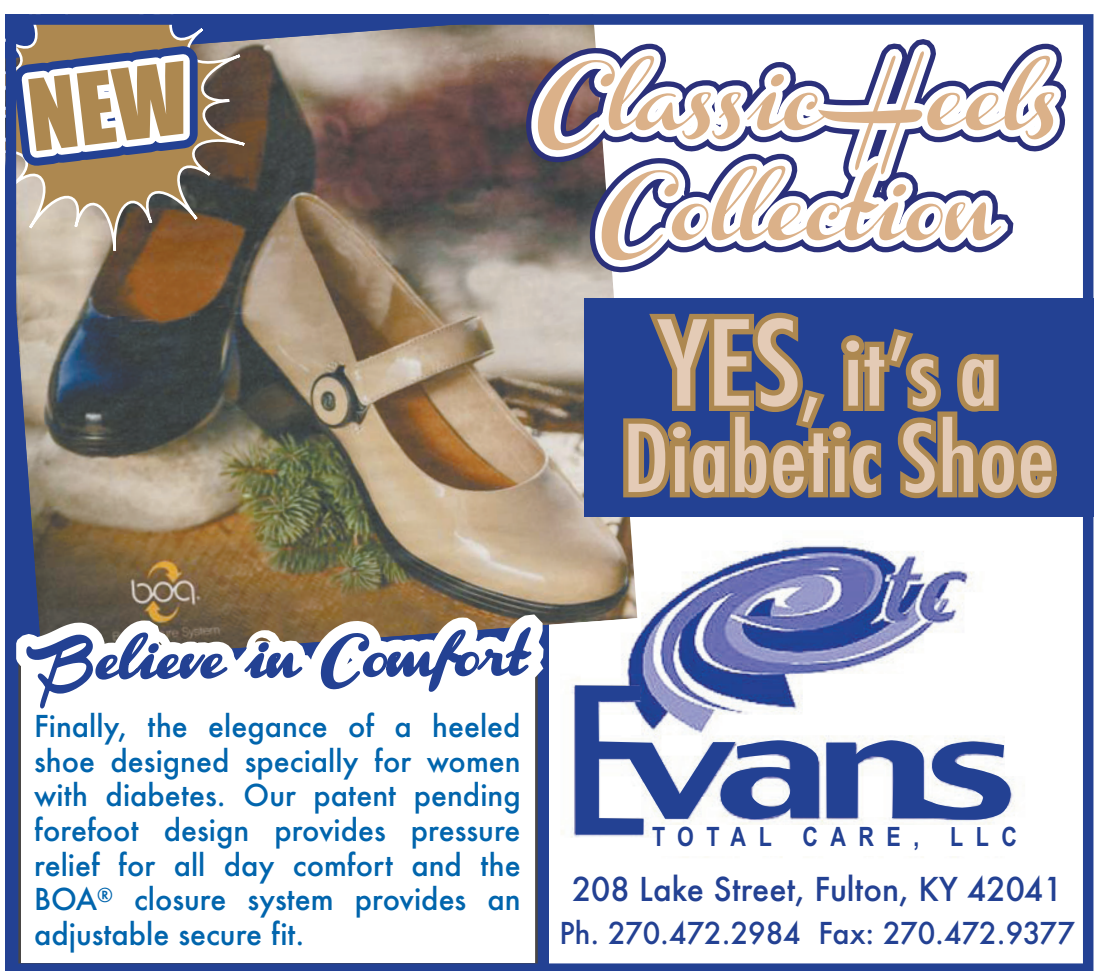
March 16 – Brian Brannam, Rosie Forsythe, Sue Swann, Kimberly McClure, James Hobbs, Jr., Kelsey Johnson, Averil Matthew, Ricky Duck, and Demetrius Bracey.

Marriage Licenses

The following Marriage License was recorded in the office of Fulton County Clerk Betty Abernathy:

Brandy Wynette Smith of Troy, Tenn. and Dallas Wayne Virgin of Troy, Tenn., Feb. 21.

The Hickman Courier
Small but Powerful



Hughes couple celebrates 60th wedding anniversary

Robert and Ruby Hughes of Union City, Tenn., will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, March 9, from 2 - 4 p.m., at the Union City Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 631 E Church Street, Union City, Tenn.

They were married March 7, 1954, at the Obion County Courthouse by Judge Mitchell.

Ruby Broyles Hughes was the daughter of the late Marvin and Earlene Broyles. She worked at Brown Shoe Manufacturing and is a retired volunteer at the Hospital Gift Shop.

Robert Hughes was the son of the late Jack and Grace Hughes. He worked for Vaughn Electric/ Reelfoot Supply Company for 40+ and retired as owner of Hughes Electric Supply.

The couple has two children, Jim Hughes of Union City, and Denise Lee of Troy, Tenn., four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

All friends and relatives are invited and they request no gifts please.

Senior Spirit

By Christina Corrigan

Fast ways to cook and eat more vegetables

Good nutrition goes a long way in assisting everyone with leading a healthy lifestyle, especially senior citizens. One difficulty is preparing healthy meals for one person.

Microwaves provide a quick and easy solution to preparing a meal for one. You can easily place a few frozen vegetables like green beans, carrots, broccoli and corn to cook in a bowl with a small amount of water.

To make a salad that looks and tastes good, add black beans or try a few bell peppers along with some shredded radishes. Your salad will not only look good, but taste delicious, too.

For busy seniors who want to be ahead of the game, try some prepackaged batches of fresh veggies to provide vitamins and minerals like spinach, celery, broccoli, and cauliflower. They not only taste great but are good for you.

Always keep a good stock of vegetables on hand like canned vegetables with low sodium or no salt added to help prevent high blood pressure. Canned tomatoes, kidney beans, garbanzo beans, mushrooms, and beets are a great addition to any meal.

Keeping canned soups on hand to eat and sip on as a quick snack or meal are easy to heat and eat. Try tomato, butternut squash, or garden vegetable soup.

Trying something new is also a great way to introduce new foods to your diet. You never know what you may like until you try it.

Weekly activities at the Senior Center include Monday March 10: 10:30, Kris Moore, Eye Health; Tuesday, March 11: 10:30 Anna McCoy, Nutrition; Wednesday, March 12: 10:30, Amy Thompson, Life Line, Sittercise, 11:30, Birthday Party, Bingo; Thursday, March 13: 10:30, Exercise, Vonceil Leyhue; Friday, March 14: 11:30, Bingo.

Bingo is played Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week (25 cents a card) on these days immediately following lunch, at approximately 11:30. Bingo winners Monday, Feb. 24: Mary Lou Curlin, Kelty Conder, Kelty Conder, and Suzanne Hurley winning coverall. Wednesday, Feb. 26: Kelty Conder, Doris Lattus, Josephine Warren and Helen Drewry winning coverall.

The following items with be served at the Senior Center next week:

Monday, March 10

Pepper steak rice, Italian green beans, whole-wheat roll, tapioca pudding and skim milk.

Tuesday, March 11

Meat loaf, roasted red potatoes, glazed carrots, whole-wheat roll, fruit cup and skim milk.

Wednesday, March 12

Barbecue pork, lima beans, marinated cucumbers, onions, tomatoes, sliced strawberries, whole-wheat bread and skim milk.

Thursday, March 13

Honey glazed chicken, baked potato, seasoned cabbage, whole-wheat bread, and skim milk.

Friday, March 14

Baked ziti, tossed salad, whole-wheat roll, black forest cake and skim milk.

WKCTC names students to Dean's List for Fall 2013

The following students have earned recognition for their academic work by being named to the West Kentucky Community and Technical College Dean's List for the fall 2013 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be a full-time WKCTC student earning at least a 3.5 grade point average (GPA) and successfully completing 12 hours or more of course work numbered 100 or above for the academic term.

Students from Fulton and Hickman counties include: Hannah Aldridge, Cayce Brockwell, Laritha Gilliland, Camelia Goodman, Stephanie Haley, Annesha Jackson, Aaron Leach, Makenna Leblanc, Chunli Lin, Tammy Mounday, Anthony Rendleman, Naureen Rendleman, Melissa Robertson, and Laken Wheeler.

Valentine's Dance a huge success at FCE/MS

By Retiazsha Chambers and Grace Elder

Just ask any middle school student at FCE/MS to name one of their favorite activities and they're bound to tell you "a dance." Students love dances, and for more reasons than just getting to move around to a musical beat.

"I was glad I finally got to wear my dress," offers Brooklyn Major. In fact, getting that new dress or shirt is half the fun for most FCE/MS students. "I had a lot of trouble finding the right dress to wear," says Caroline Morrison. "Once I found it, I knew it was perfect because it was cute and looked good on me." Every so often some students *really* go all out. This year, Collin Baggett wore a tuxedo! He said he wanted to look handsome and impress his date, Alexis Martin. Noah Miller looked pretty dashing, too, in a red and navy striped bowtie. Getting dressed up is so important that some students even go to a friend's house to get ready. "You get feedback on how you look, and that's key," shares one student. "It also kicks off that party feeling."

The music is also an important element of a successful dance. Fortunately, great music was supplied by DJ's Jim and Melissa Somerfield. "They played good songs," says Justin Eakes. "The music made everyone want to dance," adds Madison Cooper. Students do enjoy dancing but sometimes get nervous about slow dancing. "I danced with my date and wasn't nervous," says Cameron McNeil. However, when Brooklyn Major was too nervous to dance with her date, her mother stepped in. "That was embarrassing seeing my mom dance with my boyfriend!," she laughs. Of course, many students just dance with their friends and that can be the most fun of all. "There is no pressure and you don't have to be nervous with a friend," shares one student.

A dance wouldn't be a dance

See **VALENTINE,** page 8

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Obituaries

Sharon M. Hunter

Sharon M. Hunter, 71, a resident of Hickman, Ky., died February 23, 2014, at Baptist Memorial Hospital.

Born September 25, 1942 in East St. Louis, Ill., she was the daughter of the late Vincent W. and Paula Dean Tawney Malinosky. She was of the Baptist faith and was a sewing machine operator for Wrangler Jean in Troy, Tenn. She came to this area from East St. Louis.

Survivors include her husband of 53 years, James L. Hunter; one son, Louis (Santee) Hunter of Hickman; one daughter, Deana Hunter of Rio Grande City, Texas; one brother, David Malinosky of Granite City, Ill.; one sister, Nola Malinosky of Belleville, Ill.; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

One sister and one brother preceded her in death.

Graveside services were held February 26, at Obion County Memorial Gardens with Rev. John Chessor officiating.

Hornbeak Funeral Chapel of Fulton was in charge of arrangements.

James T. Fuller



James T. Fuller, 94, a resident of South Fulton, Tenn., died February 26, 2014, at Park Terrace Village in South Fulton.

Born March 6, 1919, in Weakley Co., Tenn., he was the son of the late Valvie and Willie Ellen Osborn Fuller. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Fulton, Ky., was a Merchant Marine veteran, where he served in World War II and was a former member of the Fulton Young Men's Business Club. He lived all of his life in this area.

Survivors include his wife, Naomi Klapp Fuller, whom he married January 7, 1940; two sons, Glenn W. (Brenda) Fuller of Paris, Tenn., and Gary (Glendell) Fuller of Fulton; two daughters, Joan (Hal) Warren of Fulton, and Jane (Tommy) Armes of Crossville, Tenn.; six grandchildren, Laura Lacy of Lexington, Ky., Todd Warren of Murray, Ky., Jana Warren Byrd of Denver, Colo., Meagan Smith of Milan, Tenn., Jeff Armes of Crossville, Tenn., and Molly Armes of Nashville, Tenn.; eight great-grandchildren, and one-great-great-grandchild.

One son, James Franklin Fuller, and two brothers preceded him in death.

Services were held March 1, at Hornbeak Funeral Chapel in Fulton with Dr. Rodger Eakin and Pastor Stephen Cavness officiating. Burial followed in Campground Cemetery.

Elizabeth Hutcherson Bey

Elizabeth Hutcherson Bey, 80, a resident of Fulton, Ky., died February 21, 2014, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

She was born February 14, 1934 in Chicago, Ill. She was a member of the Brooks Chapel Ministries in Fulton, and had been a cable builder for the Emerson Electric Company. She was also a member of the Ken-Tenn Homecoming and Reunion and served on the Mother's Board and other boards of her church. She moved to this area in 2000 from Chicago.

Survivors include her husband, Wayne Hutcherson Bey of Fulton; one son, Shawn Hutcherson Bey of California; two stepsons, Harry W. Hutcherson and Gene Hutcherson, both of South Fulton, Tenn.; forty-three grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, and thirty great-great-grandchildren; three brothers, Leon Dunkinsell of Chicago., Ill, Marshall Dunkinsell of Omaha, Neb., and Bennie Dunkinsell of California; two sisters, Emma of Omaha, Neb., and Mary of Chicago; and one aunt, Rose Edward of Chicago.

Three sons, Larry, Greg and Anthony, three brothers, Elizah Cook Bey, Joseph Cook, Bey and Sugar, and two sisters, Rochelle and Esther, preceded her in death.

Services were held February 28, at Brooks Chapel Ministries with Dr. Jessie L.O. Webb officiating.

Hornbeak Funeral Chapel of Fulton was in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be sent to Brooks Chapel Ministries, 230 Brooks Chapel, Fulton, KY 42041, or American Heart Association, 240 Whittington Pkwy., Louisville, KY 40222-4904.

Raymond H. Griffith

Mr. Raymond H. Griffith, 71, a resident of Union City, Tenn., died February 20, 2014, at Union City Baptist Memorial Hospital.

Born December 18, 1942 in Fulton County, he was the son of the late L.C. and Meta (Haney) Griffith. He lived there most of his life. He served in the Hickman branch of the National Guard Army for 12 years and was a long time member of the Hickman Masonic Lodge.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Tony Bell of Hornbeak, Tenn.; one son and daughter-in-law, Joey "Meathead" and Leona Griffith of So. Fulton, Tenn.; three grandsons, Josh Blanton of Union City, Taylor Moss of Cayce, Ky., and Ben Griffith of So. Fulton; one great-grandson, Jacob Blanton of Union City; one brother, Bobby Joe Griffith of Union City; three sisters, Rachel Keeling of Hornbeak, Tenn., Debbie Bolding of Mason Hall, Tenn., and Jennifer Kethireddy of Memphis, Tenn.; and several nieces and nephews.

One brother, Jackie Griffith, preceded him in death.

A Memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 1 at the White-Ranson Funeral Chapel in Union City.

Hickman Police Department News

The Hickman Police Department reports these arrests, citations, investigations and fire calls for Hickman and Cayce Volunteer Fire Departments for Sunday, Feb. 23 – Saturday, March 1:

Sunday, Feb. 23:

• Traffic stop on Bernal Ave.

• Responded to a call on Station Lane.

• Responded to a 911 Hang up on Harrison St.

• Responded to a residential alarm on Moscow Ave.

• Responded to a call on Pecan Cr.

• Responded to a complaint of loud music on Moscow Ave.

Monday, Feb. 24:

• Hickman Vol. Fire Dept responded to a motor vehicle fire on 4th St.

• Assisted Fulton PD at FCDC.

• Responded to a complaint of loud music on 7th St.

• Responded to a call at the station.

Tuesday, Feb. 25:

• Responded to a commercial burglar alarm on 7th St.

• Traffic stop on 7th St.

• Assisted FCSO with a search warrant on Moscow Ave.

• Responded to a call at Hickman Manor.

• Responded to a possible fight in progress on Nelson St.

• Responded to a call on Cedar St.

• Traffic stop on 6th St.

• Followed up on Moscow Ave. to the fight in progress call

Wednesday, Feb. 26 :

• Responded to a commercial burglar alarm on 7th St.

• Responded to a call on Harrison St.

• Responded to a 911 hang up on Moscow Ave.

• Traffic stop on Moscow Ave.

• Assisted KSP on a traffic stop.

• Assisted Tri-City EMS on Cedar St.

Thursday, Feb. 27:

• Responded to a commercial burglar alarm on 7th St.

• Responded to a 911 hang up on Ivey St.

Friday, Feb. 28:

• Responded to a call at the police department.

• Responded to a call at the police department.

• Responded to a call on Johnson Ave.

• Responded to a possible reckless driver on Union City Hwy.

• Traffic stop on Moscow Ave.

• Traffic stop on Union City Hwy. – Reginald Jackson cited for driving on suspended operator's license, failure of non-owner to maintain insurance, and failure to surrender suspended operator's license.

• Responded to a residential burglar alarm on 7th St

• Responded to a call on 7th St.

Saturday, March 1:

• Responded to an animal complaint on Union City Hwy.

• Responded to a call on Johnson Ave.

• Responded to a call at the police department.

• Traffic stop on Moscow Ave.

• Responded to a motor vehicle accident on 7th St.

• Investigated a suspicious person on Moscow Ave.

• Responded to a call on Marion Ave.

• Traffic stop on 1099 Bypass.

Arkansas

from page 1

21, of Paragould, was charged with receiving stolen property $10,000 or more.

Anthony Kyle Wilson, white male, 26, of Paragould, was charged with receiving stolen property $10,000 or more.

Both subjects are currently lodged in the Fulton County Detention Center on a $5,000 cash bond.

The Sheriff's Office would like to thank the citizens for the tips that assisted in apprehending these individuals. All tips remain completely confidential.

Housing Authority of Hickman is now accepting applications from Low and Moderate Income families for one, two, three, four and five bedroom apartments.

Apply at Housing Authority Office, 50 Holly Court, Hickman, KY 42050, or call 270-236-2888, 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lynn Busby
Executive Director

Crash

from page 1

Mitchell, a white male, 51, and the passenger was Chuck E. Mitchell, a white male, 52, both from Tiptonville, Tenn. Both were ejected from the vehicle.

Fulton County Coroner Matt Moss pronounced both subjects dead at the scene.

Assisting the FCSO on the scene were the Lake County Sheriff's Office, Fulton County Rescue Squad, Tri-Cities Ambulance Service, and the Fulton County Coroner's Office. The investigation is ongoing.

Classified Advertising Deadline Tuesday, 10 a.m.

HVFD

from page 1

When someone leaves, there is usually another to step up and take their place. Currently the HVFD has 14 members. "At one time we carried as many as 21," stated HVFD Fire Chief Tommy Ramsey. "We could use a few more to get us back to that quota."

Committing to become a volunteer firefighter takes time, work, and the desire to answer the call whenever the need strikes. "We are holding an information meeting for those interested in serving on Thursday, March 13 at 6 p.m. at the fire station," Ramsey said. "We will provide all the information to those willing to become a part of our department."

Those interested are asked to attend the informational meeting where they will find out how many training hours are required for someone interested in joining the department.

Our email address is
hickmancourier@bellsouth.net

Sheriff's Office seeking tips on missing Thorpe truck

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) responded to a stolen vehicle report on State Route 239 in the Jordan Community. James Thorpe of Union City, Tenn., stated a 2003 Chevrolet, 2500 HD Diesel pickup truck, silver in color, with Tennessee registration 393-KXN was stolen at his farm shop located on Hwy 239.

A white female was seen in the area and the vehicle she was driving was found abandoned across the Tennessee state line. The female has been identified but is not from this area and is a person of interest.

If you have any information about this crime please contact the FCSO at 270-236-2545. All tips will remain completely confidential.

FPD locates Sowell's stolen truck

On Saturday, Feb. 22, the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) responded to a stolen vehicle report on State Route 1127/166 from the farm of John Sowell. The vehicle belonged to John Sowell and he stated that sometime between February 21 and February 22, a 2000 Chevrolet Z-71 pickup truck had been stolen from his property.

After a person of interest was identified, the Fulton County Dispatch Center put out a Be On the Look Out (BOLO) report.

Later that evening the vehicle was spotted and stopped in the city limits of Fulton, Ky., by the Fulton Police Department (FPD). The driver was then identified as Trey Dean. Dean and a passenger Raymond K. Weatherly were arrested by FPD officers.

Dean, a white male, of Dresden, Tenn., was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs .08, 1st offense, and receiving stolen property under $10,000.

Weatherly, a white male, of Fulton, was charged with alcohol intoxication in a public place, 1st/2nd offense, theft by unlawful taking or disposition under $500, and theft by unlawful taking or disposition all others $500 or more but under $10,000.

Both subjects were transported to the Fulton County Detention Center by the FPD.

Drugs

from page 1

(FCDC). Edgin was released from the scene at the time.

The investigation continued and Edgin was later arrested on charges that originated from the earlier traffic stop. A search warrant for the residence of John Edgin located at 1707 Moscow Avenue was obtained and executed. Found was numerous components and items used to manufacture methamphetamine, a shake and bake lab, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia. Additional charges are being filed on Edgin for the items that were found.

Dixon, a white male, 36, was charged with possession of a controlled substance 1st degree, 1st offense, (methamphetamine) and trafficking in a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (less than 2 grams). Dixon's out of county charges were fleeing or evading police, 2nd degree (on foot), and probation violation (for felony offense).

Edgin, a white male, 35, was arrested on the charges of possession of a controlled substance 1st degree, 1st offense, (methamphetamine) and trafficking in a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (less than 2 grams). New charges are manufacturing methamphetamine, unlawfully possession of methamphetamine precursors, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and persistent felony offender.

Both subjects are currently lodged in the FCDC on a $5,000 cash bond. Edgin's charges from the search warrant will increase his bond.

If you have knowledge of any criminal activity please contact the FCSO at 270-236-2545. All tips will remain completely confidential.

Railway

from page 1

FCTA provides transportation to and from the Fulton station for safety reasons, as the train arrives at the location in the wee hours of the morning.

Through the FCTA, Etherton has researched grant funding possibilities available to use for renovations, adding the coordination process, in preparation for such a grant could take up to a year.

While he said the deadline could not be met for this year's grant from the Transportation Cabinet, he is continuing to explore other options available.

Judge Gallagher has a vested interest in the state's railway system, as it relates to economic development and industrial recruitment for the county.

Industries in Hickman and Fulton County such as Insteel, Sigri and the HFCRA are in close proximity to a section of shortline rail, known as Ken-Tenn railroad. Currently, Judge Gallagher said, the rails there are not sufficient to load and unload freight and supplies to the facilities.

"They are outdated and not efficient," Judge Gallagher said. The seven-eight mile stretch of railway, owned by the HRCDC, a group of investors, runs to Insteel, circles SGL Carbon, then continues past the Riverport and connects to the mainline at Dyersburg, Tenn.

"Did you see that sign over there?" Judge Gallagher asked, pointing to one of the many graphs, charts and statistical analysis presentations displayed on table top easels. The specific display cited objectives as it related to the state's railway system and economic development, including identifying adequate rail access, developing the rail access, working with economic development groups to promote rail served industrial sites and partnering with neighboring states to develop initiatives to promote connectivity to the national rail system.

HFCRA Director Curlin said he came to the meeting to look for funding, plain and simple.

He said the existing railway, the Ken-Tenn railroad, needs major improvements. Although barge traffic is a viable means by which to transport goods, Curlin said, unless there is a tremendous volume, using barges to transport goods may not be the best option for some industries.

He said the current railway which circles the riverport has a limited capacity, at best and could potentially need milllions in improvement dollars.

He said he understood the owners of the short rail section, the HRCDC, are five individuals, formed some 20 plus years ago. He said Judge Gallagher serves on that board, however he was unsure of the official's role in regard to being able to vote on issues. He said he knew the late Jack Gannon had been a member of the board, with partial ownership, and also understood there had been some reorganization following Gannon's death.

While the purpose of the Transportation Cabinet's public meeting in Fulton did not directly relate to funding sources for railway related causes in the area, indirectly, the input submitted there could have an effect on the state's ability to be completely in compliance, if and when federal dollars do become available.

A Project Team will prepare a revised document plan which will highlight and summarize the freight and passenger rail operations in the state, resulting in a revised set of goals and objectives, as well as recognizing that operation of rail services in the Commonwealth is largely dependent upon private operators.

Lynn J. Soporowski, P.E., Transportation Engineering Branch Manager with the Transportation Cabinet said something to keep in mind, is the fact passenger and freight railroads are privately owned, and not controlled or operated by the state. The last Railway plan was updated in 2002.

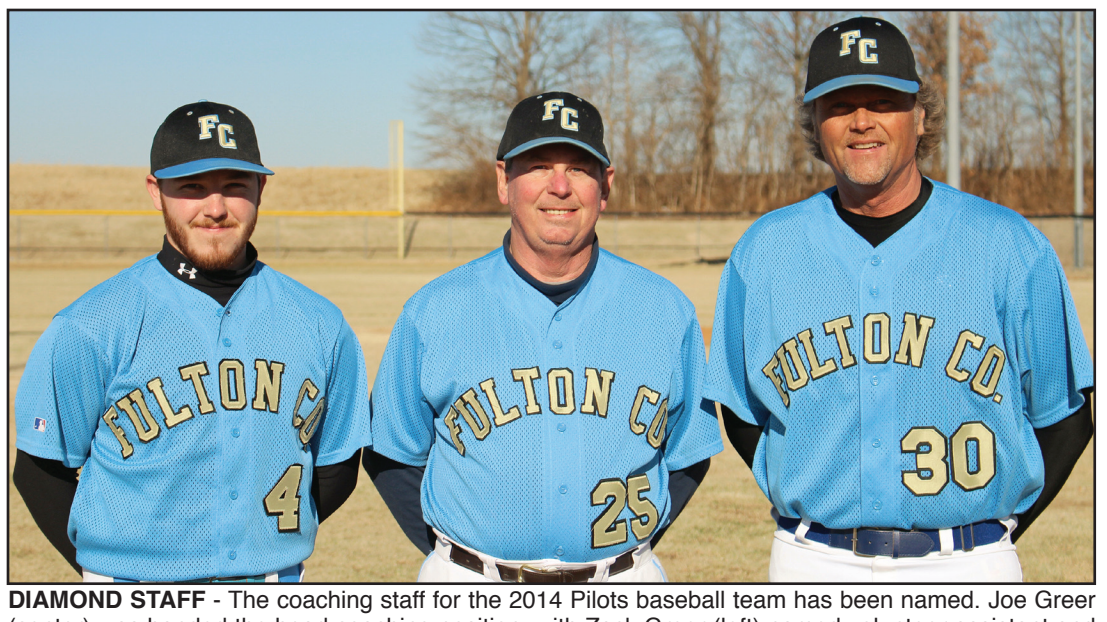
The state contains over 2,800 miles of freight rail, 99 rail yards with the largest operator listed as CSX. Coal is a big commodity, out, in and through Kentucky.

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DIAMOND STAFF - The coaching staff for the 2014 Pilots baseball team has been named. Joe Greer (center) was handed the head coaching position, with Zack Greer (left) named volunteer assistant and Charles Choate (right) back for his second season as the head assistant coach. All three coaches are former Fulton County High School baseball players, and are now working with the team in anticipation of their March 14 season opener.

Pilots prepare for success in 2014

The Fulton County Pilots baseball team showed big strides of improvement in 2013, and now are looking to contend for the district title and a Regional Tournament berth.

The Pilots used a strong group of sophomore players last year to win five games, with two additional games lost in the final at bat.

For 2014, the junior laden squad will take to the diamond with a new head coach in the dugout.

Joe Greer, of Hickman, was recently hired for the position, becoming the third different head coach for the baseball program over the past three seasons.

Greer will be joined on the field by head assistant coach Charles Choate, who returns after coaching with the Pilots in 2013, and new volunteer assistant coach Zack Greer.

The Pilots have 16 players on the roster, and are working to replace the loss of two graduating seniors, Kevin Bodon and Javin West, who held starting positions in the line-up.

Going into the third official week of practice, coach Greer said the players are coming together well.

"They really look good to me right now, and I look to win a lot of games. Some of the players have already shown their experience from last year and I pretty much knew where they would play. They are still young, but I think we will prevail in many games."

Despite the lingering effects of winter temperatures and precipitation, the Pilots have taken to the field almost daily, getting in their batting practice, fielding practice and basic drills.

"It's been really cold and I have to admire them for coming out here and practicing in this type of weather. But, we may have to play games in these conditions. I'm really proud of the guys because they have put the weather aside and practiced hard. I'm also proud of the coaches I have too, I think it's all going to work out well."

Fulton County will begin their regular season play on March 14, when they travel to Clinton to take part in the four team Tom Hulsey Memorial Tournament, along with Hickman County, Lake County and Ballard Memorial.

Judge

from page 1

Martin. "My training and experience in highway engineering provide me with a strong understanding of road construction and maintenance.

"Moreover, my background in economic development provides me with the ability to accurately assess the economic condition of Fulton County, as well as the skills to formulate strategies to get our county on sound footing." He noted that his qualifications were recognized in 2011, when he was named the State of Kentucky Economic Development Allied Professional of the Year, and in 2012, when inducted into the Kentucky Economic Development Hall of Fame.

Weatherly, 45, a resident of Hickman, is currently studying to obtain his bachelor of science degree in finance at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is a native and lifelong resident of Fulton County. With his wife Marsha of 25 years, he has two daughters, Maegan, a graduate student at the University of Kentucky, and Leah, a freshman at Fulton County High School.

Weatherly notes his background in business and government, coupled with his education in finance and accounting as a skill set that uniquely qualifies him for the position. "Serving as president of the Fulton County Levee Commissioners and as mayor pro-tem for the Hickman City Commission has helped me develop and hone skills in areas such as budgeting, management, and intergovernmental relations," Weatherly said.

Atwill, 67, born in Fulton County and currently a resident of the Cayce community, has completed two years of college and is retired from the Kentucky Department of Transportation and the Kentucky National Guard with 30+ years of service. He is married to Melanie Atwill. J.L. has two children, Camiel Taylor, Jay Atwill, and one stepson, Seth McPherson, and he and Melanie have three grandchildren, Nick and Emma Taylor and Clare McPherson.

"I have been involved with city, county, and state government since 1986," Atwill said when addressing his qualifications. "During this time I served as disaster and emergency services director. I've worked public work, farmed for 20+ years, served as Hickman city manager, volunteered as emergency management deputy director, and deputy sheriff/K9 officer. I have a vested interest in Fulton County and want it to thrive in the years to come for not only us, but also for future generations."

Population and economic development are among the top issues the three men feel are most affecting Fulton County. "Population loss is our most pressing problem," stated Martin. "We have lost 55% of our population since 1920. The decrease in population has brought losses to every sector of our economy and to all our institutions. I propose the development of a set of strategies that will stop the bleeding and then set a course which will improve our competitiveness in several different areas: job creation, residential development, and retail opportunities."

He added that the real issues of the county must first be defined. "Once our strengths and weaknesses are clear, we must capitalize on our strengths to improve our competitiveness, to revitalize our job market and economy, and to foster population growth," added Martin

"Like many rural communities, Fulton County is experiencing a decline in population, high unemployment, and too many of its citizens living below the poverty line," stated Weatherly. "The key to turning these trends around has two parts: 1) We must seek out and convince industry to locate here, thereby creating jobs that will fuel growth. 2) To be successful in our endeavor to attract industry, we must convince the state and federal government to build and maintain the critical infrastructure that supports industry. This includes roads, especially four-lane and interstate highways and bridges, but it also includes rail (support) and our ports and harbors."

"Like other counties, we need more economic development," stated Atwill, "to help generate income and attract new business."

A particular issue Martin would address is creating jobs. "Creating jobs is the tip of the bullet that will shoot down what ails Fulton County," Martin said. "We have a very good economic development organization in the county, and I have no intention of interfering with what they are doing. My role would be to support and augment that organization in any way possible. I do think, however, there are many avenues to improve our competitiveness. I would like to spend a great deal of my time as Judge/Executive improving our overall product and marketing our county to all who are looking to build, expand, relocate, or grow."

"I would like to see manufacturing plants locate in all the empty facilities we have in the county," stated Weatherly as his particular issue of focus. "I want Fulton County to have the lowest unemployment rate in the Purchase Area instead of the highest. I don't want the low cost of living to be the only reason people want to move to Fulton County.

"I would like to see Kentucky spend as much money building and repairing roads in Fulton County as they do in the golden triangle (Frankfort, Louisville, and Lexington)," Weatherly said.

Atwill would like to continue and enhance cooperation between cities and county, for the betterment of Fulton County as well as surrounding counties. "This is a current process taking place through Fulton/Hickman County Economic Development," stated Atwill. "I also support our county effort to continue services provided to citizens of Fulton in their city."

"I am a consensus manager," Martin noted. "I don't make decisions in a vacuum. I listen to everyone's concerns. I don't make decisions in the interest of special groups but rather in the interest of us all. I have the experience to understand the issues and challenges that lie ahead, and I have the skills to develop (helpful) strategies. I will be a full-time county Judge/Executive who will, in conjunction with others, face the issues that are ahead."

"To be successful in local government I believe a person needs to have a vested interest in the community," Weatherly said. "I believe they need to be willing to stand boldly for Fulton County in meetings at the regional, state, and federal levels of government.

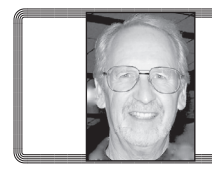
"I have done this for the Levee Board and successfully obtained millions of dollars in federal funding to build and maintain the levee for the safety and prosperity of the citizens of Fulton County," he said. He feels his strengths include his education, experience, a positive attitude, and a supportive family.

"It is important for a county official, in particular county Judge/Executive, to possess good listening skills, concern for citizens, assertiveness when necessary, respect for others, and flexibility," stated Atwill. "The county Judge/Executive should make sound decisions after collecting all the facts of the task-at-hand."

Atwill pointed out his experience in multiple areas of city, county, and state government; practicality, the ability to communicate; willing to work for Fulton County, and knowledge of the process of position duties as his strengths. "Weakness in oneself is often hard to identify," he added, "but I recognize I possess them and will strive to overcome them."

"The biggest drawback is for us as a community," Martin said, "to understand the real situations we now face in the economic decline of our county and to build consensus for solutions," he said. "We must have the fortitude to undertake the initiatives required to move the county forward and to accomplish our goals. This will require commitment, hard work, and wise management of our resources."

"The only drawback (to his election as judge/executive) is that I will no longer be a member of the Hickman City Commission," Weatherly noted. "Working with the employees and elected officials of the City of Hickman has been a very rewarding experience. If I am elected Fulton County Judge/Executive, I look forward to working with the city governments of both Fulton and Hickman to continue to promote Fulton County."



Sports In Kentucky
For the Hickman Courier
By Bob Watkins

Kentucky Wildcats ... future?

Projections came last week not from a coach, but from a kid who did the Man-Up thing and offered Big Blue fans hope.

Aaron Harrison. Rookie, who solos too much on-court faced the music off it with a sunny if fanciful forecast.

"It's going to be a great story," the kid told reporters following his team's second and most stunning loss in a row, at South Carolina.

Bless Harrison's heart for optimism of an 18-year-old who knows his next game can erase memory that, of his team-high 16 shots (mostly awful), only four went in. And, he had zero assists.

• Kudos to UK assistant coach John Robic, a sane traffic cop at South Carolina. With 10 minutes left, his players brightened, even smiled and rallied within a point.

• Reality check I. Aaron Harrison's optimism aside, this irony: Most defining part of UK's season could be when its history – who declares for the NBA Draft.

• Reality check II. The skidding metal-on-metal sounds we hear could be Willie Cauley-Stein and Alex Poythress skidding toward the D-League. The former won't mind as much as the latter who's going to need his college degree

• Reality check III. In my decades watching UK basketball, I can't recall a collection of soloists become less a team in March than they were in November.

TV & BALL COACHES

An ESPN audience watched last Saturday, along with Gamecocks' coach Frank Martin, himself a smoldering volcano, as Calipari morphed into Captain Queeg raving about his frozen strawberries.

The coach lost it. His players lost. And Calipari's unrelenting showtime rant (to show fans he's coaching) may cost him credibility with a bunch of kids wearing the same clothes and still forced to share one ball.

And we lost too – respect for television directors and on-air apologists (shameless Jimmy Dykes). Too many ball coaches have grown a bloated sense of importance above the game, concluding the Coach is The Show.

CONNECTING DOTS

On a Saturday when Rick Pitino made a fool of himself in Memphis, Mick Cronin did likewise on Cincinnati's sideline, all on the heels of Jim Boeheim blown fuse at Duke, and Calipari went ballistic too, I was reminded....

• Pitino has always behaved like a lunatic.

• Pitino worked for Boeheim.

• Cronin worked for Pitino.

• Calipari at UMass was said to be Rick Pitino on training wheels.

QUESTIONS THIS WEEK

Most frequently asked questions this week?

√ Will Rick Pitino shave off his beard?

√ Will John Calipari try to grow one?

√ Who's going to be Kentucky's next ball coach?

√ Has Adolph Rupp turned over in his grave?

√ NCAA Tournament. Has Kentucky played itself down in the seedings, open the tournament against ... Indiana?

√ Tubby Smith was fried when his teams had back-to-back double digit losing seasons. What about this one?

√ Who the heck is Joe Dan Gold?

LOUISVILLE LOSS AT MEMPHIS

This question...

√ Will Louisville's loss at Memphis be a good thing?

Answer: Yes. These reasons: 1. College athletes ought be clean-shaven; 2. Humble pie on March 1 tastes better than it does two weeks on; 3. More game clips to show Russ Smith what happens when the "get outa my way and lemme shoot" Russ Smith shows up.

JUST WONDERING DEPT.

At UMass and Memphis U., Calipari was competent ball coach. Sort of. Discounting that both schools were forced to take down Final Four banners, won during his tenure, both programs won games, made lots of money.

Just wondering ... about the Peter Principle.

According to Dr. Laurence J. Peter, theory: An employee within an organization advances to his highest level of competence. His next promotion is to arrive at a level his own incompetence.

Calipari?

CAROLINA FIASCO

SEC man in charge of game officials Jake Bell will shrug and deny it, but officiating for the Kentucky-South Carolina was weak, too reactionary, inconsistent, lop-sided. Yet, fair-minded Kentucky fans have to wonder: "If I had a grown man violating the coach's box, screeching at players and screaming in my ear every trip down court, how would I call this game?"

FREE PASS OVER?

That state media cozied up and kissed up to man they call Cal the last four months might be at an end. Last week, two reporters noticed apparently for the first time this season:

√ Calipari "screamed and stamped his feet."

√ Calipari "yelled at the top of his lungs, leaped in the air."

NBA FRANCHISE TO LOUISVILLE?

A sampling of what area fans would be paying for outrageous tickets for an NBA game if a franchise moved to Louisville...

Toronto general manager Bryan Colangelo admitted what many of us suspected already. Some teams play to lose to improve their positions in the draft.

Had the Raptors lost a certain game last season "they could have been in a coin flip for the number six pick," according to an internet report last week. Colangelo wanted the number one pick, but Toronto coach Dwane Casey interfered. "He did too good of a job in motivating his players," Colangelo said.

And so it goes.



SATURDAY OF BASKETBALL - (At right) Members of the Thundercats and Lady Wildcats teams are shown, at left, during basketball play on Saturday, March 1.



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Lady Pilots fall in district play

Charles Choate
Courier Correspondent

The Fulton County Lady Pilots had no answer for a Carlisle County nemesis, in the First District Tournament, and fell in the opening round play 43-28.

The Lady Comets Heaven Hooper had provided her team with big offensive performances against the Pilots this season, and the district tournament game was no different.

Hooper dropped in 24 points, and was the only double digit scorer on the night, in guiding the Lady Comets to the win.

Carlisle County never trailed in the game, turning an early 2-2 game into a 14-3 first quarter lead.

The Lady Comets maintained a 22-13 advantage at the intermission, and ended the third quarter on top 32-22.

Fulton County had seven players enter the scoring column in the opening round game, with Leslie Beth Jackson leading the team with 8 points.

Yashema Kimble had 5, AnnaGregory Grissom 5, Alana Coffey 5, Leah Weatherly 2, Alexis Dickson 2 and KyLira Williams 1.



Photos by Charles Choate

REBOUND BATTLE - Fulton County's AnnaGregory Grissom (32) and Alana Coffey (5) battle for a rebound against Lady Comet players Makena Edging (23) and Laken Sams (25) during the First District Tournament. Carlisle County beat the Lady Pilots in the opening round game held at Fulton City High School.



Photos by Charles Choate

PEP TALK - Lady Pilots basketball coach Leonard Smith discusses strategy with his team, during a time out of the First District Tournament. It was a tough night on the hardwood for Fulton County, as their season came to an end with a 43-28 loss to Carlisle County.

Bluff Briefs

Fundraiser for Dan Cartwright

A chili supper, silent auction and cake walk fundraiser, to help with expenses for Dan Cartwright, will be held Friday, March 7, beginning at 6 p.m. The event will be held at First United Methodist Church's Life Enrichment Center, located on Wellington St., in Hickman, across from the courthouse.

Fulton County High School Open House

The Fulton County High School Open House has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 18 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Fulton Rotary Benefit Golf Scramble

The Fulton Rotary Club will sponsor a Benefit Golf Scramble on Friday, May 2, beginning at 1:00 p.m., at the Fulton Country Club. This event is limited to 36 teams, at $300 per 4-person team (includes cart and green fee, entry fee, lunch, mulligans, and throws). Lunch will be served from 11:30 - 12:45. Prize for hole-in-one is $10,000 and other on course prizes. Contact Sam Miller 270-472-2800 to enter a team, or to sponsor a hole for $50, make a donation of money, or donate a door prize. All proceeds go to the local Rotary Scholarship Fund.

Obion Creek Watershed Conservancy Board to meet

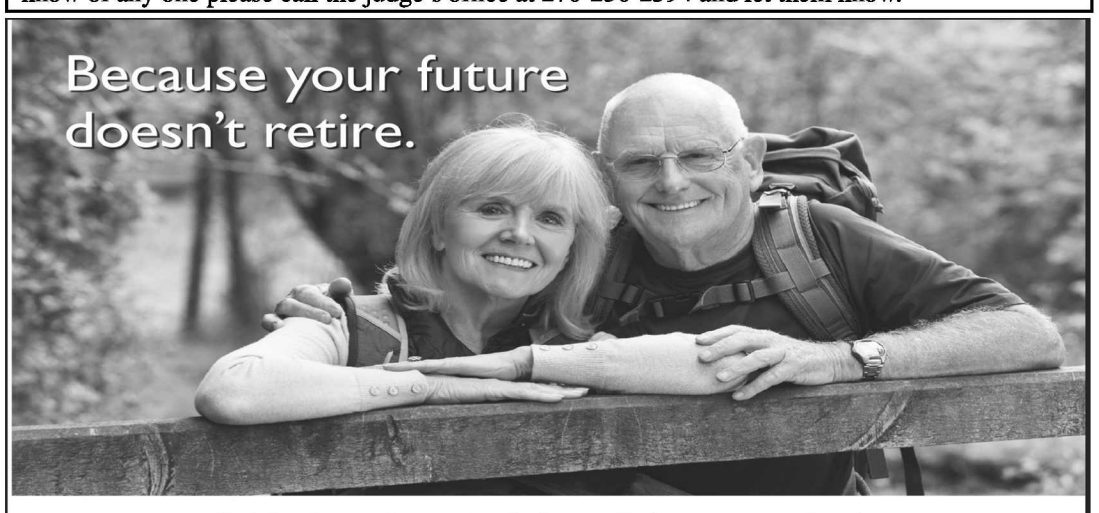
The Obion Creek Watershed Conservancy District Board of Directors will meet Tuesday morning, March 11, at 7:30 a.m., in the USDA Service Center, Conference Room in Clinton, Ky. The public is invited to attend.

Black History Program to be held

A Black History program, originally scheduled in February, has been rescheduled. The new date will be Sunday, March 9, at 2:30 p.m., at Thomas Chapel Church.

Fulton Countians serving overseas

The Fulton County Judge's office is compiling a list of Fulton Countians serving overseas. If you know of any one please call the judge's office at 270-236-2594 and let them know.



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Photos by Charles Choate

RISE ABOVE - Davis Major (20) soars above a host of Carlisle County players, while shooting a running jumper. Major sparked a big comeback effort for the Pilots in the fourth quarter, but the Comets were able to eliminate Fulton County in the District Tournament, 55-52.

Comets depth sinks Pilots in districts

Charles Choate
Courier Correspondent

The Fulton County Pilots chance to capture a district title were ended last week, basically at the hands of two players, who were not even in their teams starting line-up.

Carlisle County got a 26 point combined effort from bench players Paxton Crider and Jordan Kellett, to hand the Pilots a 55-52 tournament loss at Fulton City High School.

"They really hurt us." said Pilots coach Mitchell Williamson. "Crider hadn't played for a couple of week's due to an injury and came in and hit two three pointers quick and then Kellett played just as well. So, they really caused us problems all night."

The game was much anticipated, after the two teams both posted home wins during the regular season play.

Fulton County came out strong in the first quarter, with a 3-point shot from Davis Major giving the Pilots a 13-6 first quarter advantage.

After that point, the Comets ran out on a 21-13 scoring spurt thru the second quarter, which gave them a 32-26 halftime advantage.

The third quarter saw Carlisle take their biggest lead of the night at 38-28, with 5:03 on the clock, but the most exciting basketball of the night was to come.

Trailing 40-32 to begin the fourth quarter, Davis Major pumped in seven straight points to pull the Pilots to within three points, 44-41, at the 6:27 mark.

The Comets lead was then cut to a single point, 45-44 with 2:40 remaining, when Devontae Hampton buried a 3-point shot from the deep outside the arc.

The game would come down to a last possession play, in which Fulton County needed a 3-point shot to tie, but a triple team defense on Major resulted in a stripped ball and elimination for the Pilots.

"We really played well in the game despite the loss," said Williamson. "This was a tough ballgame. Physical game on both ends. Our defense for the most part was strong. Our press caused them issues. In one way I guess you could look at the free throw stat and say there was a difference. We shot 10 and they shot 25. It was a game we wanted to win, but it just didn't come out our way."

The Pilots were led in the game by Davis Major with 19 points, followed by Steven Roberson 16, Octavious Smith 10, Devontae Hampton 5 and Joe Holman 2.

Carlisle County had four players in double figures, with Paxton Crider 15, Jordan Kellett 11, Ethan Weatherspoon 11 and Trey Carrico 10.

Following the tournament, Steven Roberson, Davis Major and Joe Holman were selected to the All-District Team for Fulton County, who finished their season with a record of 7-12.



Photo by Charles Choate

BASELINE DRIVE - Steven Roberson (21) drives to the basket for two points, as Carlisle County's Ethan Weatherspoon (20), Trey Carrico (3), and Paxton Crider (12) look on. Roberson poured in 16 points, but the Pilots lost a tough ballgame to the Comets in the opening round of the First District Tournament 55-52.

Informational Interact meeting draws 90 students

For several years the Hickman Rotary Club has provided Fulton County High School freshmen the opportunity to participate in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). Most RYLA events focus on secondary school students, university students, or young professionals.

FCHS students Jeremiah Bagley and Sasha Montgomery are two of the students who participated in the event. Bagley for the last two years and Montgomery for the last four. The annual event lasts 3-10 days and includes presentations, activities, and workshops that cover a variety of topics, including:

- Leadership fundamentals and ethics
- Communication skills
- Problem solving and conflict management
- Community and global citizenship

Following Bagley and Montgomery's involvement in RYLA, they felt compelled to involve other young people in their RYLA experience, and they are doing this through Interact, a club for youth ages 12-18 focusing on relationships and activities within their communities.

Interact club members have fun while carrying out service projects and learning about the world. Interact clubs organize at least two service projects a year, one that benefits their community and one that encourages international understanding. While Interact clubs receive guidance from individual Rotary clubs, the youth groups govern and support themselves.

Bagley led an informational meeting about Interact on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 27, with 90 FCHS students. Montgomery spoke about her experience with RYLA and explained why it is important for the students to be involved in their community.

"We as teenagers take so much for granted," she said. "It is important for you to take this club seriously."

"Yes, you will be asked to do some work," stated ATC principal Terry Sullivan, Hickman Rotarian and sponsor for the group, "but you will have fun while you give back to your community." Club projects might include raking someone's lawn or painting a building. Following their participation in Interact, students can transition into the Rotaract organization which brings together people ages 18-30 and is the threshold organization to membership in Rotary International.

This organization involves universities and communities worldwide to organize service activities, develop leadership and professional skills, and encourage fun. Rotary clubs sponsor them, but Rotaract members manage and fund their own clubs. At this time, the nearest Rotaract club is in Paducah. They meet on the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the National Quilt Museum. "We have volunteer and social activities each month, but those are floating," added Angie Hatton, a Paducah Rotaract member. "Our monthly meeting is set for the first Monday of every month, unless it falls on a holiday. Then we move it to the next Monday." You can follow the Paducah Rotaract Club on Facebook.



Photo by Charlotte Smith

LEADING THE WAY - Jeremiah Bagley (left) and Sasha Montgomery answer questions and talk about developing an Interact meeting at Fulton County High School with the Hickman Rotary Club as a sponsor.

Hickman's Rotary Club currently consists of 32 business professionals who work and live in the Hickman area. The club meets at The Citizens Bank community room on Thursdays at noon for their lunch and program meeting.

The organization will be celebrating 20 years in existence this year in April. Betty Abernathy is serving as the club's president with Charlotte Smith, president-elect, Tracey Lamb, secretary, and Bonnie Poynor, treasurer. The Hickman Rotary Club also has a Facebook page.



Jeremiah Bagley



PUERTO RICO CONSTRUCTION MISSIONARY TEAM - Team leaders Darrell and Carrie Powell took a team of 28 ranging in age from 14 to 84 to Puerto Rico, representing 12 different churches, nine from Kentucky and three from Tennessee. Team members include: (front row, l to r) Wade Clark, Darrell Powell, Connor Jackson, Eugene Hudgins, Max Cooper, Will Elliott, and John Felts; (middle row, l to r) Savanah Sublett, Betty Elliott, Carrie Powell, Dora Spates, Johnie McDonald, Melanie Atwill, J.L. Atwill, C.J. Morris, Linda McElyea, and Linda Alexander; and (back row, l to r) Carla Jackson, Dixie Major, Amy Langford, Art Holt, Penny Fleming, Karen Langford, Tim Langford, John Elliott, Betty Campbell, Zach Sarles, and Sidney Spates.

Examples

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bring a deeper meaning to one's life.

This is the vision that struck Connor. "It was a blessing to go," he said. "It is pretty amazing to help people."

For Connor, the trip also strengthened his relationship with God while he was forming a bond with the deaf community of Puerto Rico. "The deaf people don't have anything," he said. "They are treated as if they are nothing. It was sad, but it was an inspiration to help people who really can't get any help for themselves."

The work was hard, and with little knowledge of sign language, communication with the deaf people was difficult, but Connor is ready to go back. "I would definitely do it again," he said. "If someone was undecided about going, I would tell them it would be the best idea that they would have all year."

Looking back, even at a young age, Connor realizes he was blessed to be there as he saw the looks on the Puerto Ricans' faces after he worked all week performing tasks like finishing concrete. "I learned how to work with concrete from my dad," he said proudly, truly making this a family affair for the first-timer.

Having cooks Linda Alexander, Karen Langford, and Betty Campbell with them on the trip was another gift. "Even though I was far from the comforts of home, the weather was great, 80 degrees and sunny," he said, "and another plus was enjoying some of my favorite foods like tacos and chicken and dumplings prepared by the cooks we brought with us."

Dixie Major, a FCHS junior and the daughter of Mindy and Rick Major, was also on the trip with Connor. This was Dixie's third time traveling to Puerto Rico with the Powells' team, and she has also spent several summers with Kentucky Changers.

Kentucky Changers goes way beyond the typical "summer camp" experience. Participants are challenged to become "On Mission" Christians as they live out their faith getting their hands dirty doing exterior home repairs for low-income families.

"We stayed and worked on two homes in the nearby mountains," explained Dixie about the recent Puerto Rico trip. "One of the houses belonged to a deaf family and the other belonged to their relatives." The deaf family was not able to pay their water bill, forcing them to use rain water and the second family's water.

"One day we traveled across the island to seal the roofs of the houses of two deaf church members," explained Dixie. "Puerto Rico has a large deaf population, and few people know American Sign Language (ASL), so the deaf community has trouble communicating and getting jobs." Because of the lack of communication, many of that community are extremely poor and are often treated unfairly.

"Though Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States, its culture is very different from that of the continental U.S.," Dixie added. "Language barriers that occur both with Spanish and ASL make communication difficult, but with God's help we are still able to witness to the deaf as well as the hearing.

"We hand out Spanish Bibles whenever we get the chance," she said, "and team members witness to any English speaker they meet.

"It is an amazing experience that I would never have imagined having three years ago," concluded Dixie.

Financial support from churches in the West Kentucky Baptist Association and individuals help pay costs for the Puerto Rico teams. "Without them we would not be able to go and do the work," stated the Powells. "All the money that is donated to us is used only for materials."



VALENTINE DANCE ROYALTY - A Valentine Dance was held at Fulton County Elementary/Middle School in February. Those named to the royalty court include: (front left to right) Cailey Prehoda, Lindy Sipes, Karlie Williams; (second row left to right) Jywon Jones, Bobby Chrisp, Alexis Martin, Rachel Kelly, Noah Miller; (third row left to right) Bradley Webb, Jonah Mathews, Lily Wheeler, and Ben Worthington.

Valentine

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without pictures. "They help capture the moment," states Taivion Sanders. "It makes the dance seem to last longer." Students take photos with their friends in groups, but some also get individual shots. "We enjoyed taking the pictures," admits Karlie Williams and Cameron McNeil. Students pose before a large backdrop designed and executed by the student council. This year's backdrop was zebra print with a black stripe and a pink swag. "It was really cute," says a student. The student council also made signs for the cafeteria where the dance took place: "Love is in the Air," and "Will You be my Valentine?"

An annual part of tradition at the Valentine's Dance is the "King and Queen of Hearts" contest. Students earlier in the week nominated and voted on the sweetest boy and girl in each grade. The winners receive a crown, scepter, and sash. For the eighth grade Jonah Mathews and Lindy Sipes were King and Queen, with Bradley Webb and Lily Wheeler runners-up. The seventh grade had a tie for King. Both Bobby Chrisp and Noah Miller won with Karlie Williams, Queen. Rachel Kelly was runner-up. In the sixth grade Jywon Jones and Cailey Prehoda were King and Queen. Ben Worthington and Alexis Martin were runners-up.

In fact, FCE/MS students had so much fun at the Valentine's Dance that some are already lobbying for a Spring Fling.



Photo by Jenna Smith

CLEARING THE ROADS - Plows were busy Monday and Tuesday clearing Fulton County's roadways following the ice, sleet and snow.

Elect
David Weatherly
Fulton County Judge/Executive



My name is David Weatherly, and I am seeking the office of Fulton County Judge/Executive. My name will be listed first on the ballot in the election on May 20, and I am asking for your vote and support.

Since I am asking for your vote and support I feel as if I should tell you a little about myself, my family, what I think is important for Fulton County, and what I intend to do if you elect me as your Judge/Executive.

I am 45 years old. I'm a native and lifelong resident of Fulton County. I graduated from Fulton County High School in 1986, and I am currently finishing my Bachelor's degree in Finance at UT-Martin. My wife Marsha and I have been married for 25 years. We have 2 daughters: Maegan, who is a graduate student at UK, and Leah, who is a freshman at Fulton County High School. My family and I enjoy many activities together such as running, biking, and watersports. We have participated in several 5K charity runs and even 1 triathlon. We are members of the First United Methodist Church in Hickman. My family has been a great influence in my life.

I grew up on a small family farm in the Sassafras Ridge community, which is located in the western end of Fulton County. I worked for my father and uncle on that farm until I was old enough to become a partner with my Dad. He eventually retired and I ran that farming operation through 2013. When I learned that Judge/Executive Gallagher was planning to retire, after much thought, prayer, and discussion, I made the decision to run for this office. In order to do this I needed to finish the college education I had been working on part-time, and reorganize the farming operation so I would no longer need to be there. I will finish classes and earn my degree in Finance this December, and family members have already taken over the day-to-day operation of the farm. This will allow me to devote myself entirely to the duties of Fulton County Judge/Executive.

My first exposure to county government was at an early age when my Dad, James Weatherly, known by most people as Sam, was elected to the Fulton County School Board. He served in that position from the time I was in elementary school until I graduated from high school. He retired after I graduated because he believed the school district would be best served by board members that had children attending school. From his first election to his last he was never opposed. I believe this was because he always had the best interest of the people at heart and everyone knew it. I have always tried to follow his lead in the positions I have served in, and will continue to do so if elected Fulton County Judge/Executive. I have worn many hats over the years, serving in several different positions in local government.

I spent many years on the Fulton County Extension Board. I have served as the President of the Fulton County Board of Levee Commissioners for the past 5-1/2 years. I was elected to the Hickman City Commission in 2012, and currently serve as Mayor Pro-tem. During my time on the Levee Board we successfully secured over $21 million dollars in federal funding to build and maintain critical infrastructure in Fulton County. In 2012, I was honored to receive the Commanders Award for Public Service from the United States Department of the Army. As a member of the Hickman City Commission I have developed and honed skills in budgeting, management, and intergovernmental relations. I have interacted with legislators at both the state, and federal levels to support local projects and obtain funding for them.

If you elect me as your Judge/Executive I will work diligently to administer the day to day activities of the county government in a fiscally responsible way, work with the city governments of Fulton and Hickman to continue to pool resources to save the taxpayers money, work with our local economic development partners to bring industry and jobs to Fulton County, and keep the name of Fulton County in front of our legislators in Frankfort and Washington to ensure we are not left behind when state and federal dollars are disseminated to local governments. Fulton County must position itself to be competitive in the 21st century marketplace.

Since announcing my candidacy many people have asked me "just what, exactly does the Judge/Executive do?" If you elect me as your Judge/Executive here is what I plan to do:

1. An important function of the Judge/Executive is the preparation and execution of the county's budget. My background in business coupled with my education in finance, accounting, economics, and my experience working in local government has given me a skillset that uniquely qualifies me for this job.

Federal highway dollars are administered through state governments and then passed on to cities and counties to repair and pave local roads. I will work to ensure Fulton County gets every dollar it should. Roads and bridges are vital to our county.

Property taxes are collected by the Sheriff and distributed to various entities throughout the county government. These funds are used to operate everything from libraries to the extension service to the school system. I believe these entities should be fiscally responsible while providing their much needed services to the people. I support our schools because educating our children is the key to the continued success of Fulton County and the United States.

I will manage Fulton County's limited resources in a conservative and responsible manner while maximizing the utility citizens receive from them.

2. Fulton County participates in several economic partnerships aimed at attracting industry to our region. Economic development is vital to the future of Fulton County and the cities of Hickman and Fulton. We must bolster our efforts to create jobs for our citizens, and we must work together.

I will work diligently with these economic partnerships to see Fulton County is adequately represented at every level of government.

3. The fact that Fulton County is geographically isolated from the state capitol means we must be ever vigilant in our efforts to keep our legislators informed about issues important to our citizens.

I will not hesitate to make the trip to Frankfort to meet personally with state bureaucrats or legislators to compel them to make the right decisions when dealing with issues regarding our county.

4. The Fulton County Detention Center has become the largest enterprise in our county's government, with a multi-million dollar annual budget. Its continued success is vital to the overall success of the county. I will work with the Jailer, and support him in any way possible to ensure he and the members of his staff are able to continue to meet mounting state and federal regulations.

5. A good working relationship with the other elected officials that run the county government is important. I am already well acquainted with all county elected officials. I will work together with them to serve the people of Fulton County.

These are only a few of the things I believe are important to our county government.

I have lived and worked in Fulton County my entire life. I sincerely wish to see Fulton County, the cities of Hickman and Fulton grow, prosper, and flourish. I promise to work hard to try and make these dreams a reality if you elect me your next Fulton County Judge/Executive.

Sincerely,
David Weatherly

Paid for by David Weatherly, 718 Moscow Ave., Hickman, KY 42050